

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL MONTREAL IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

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MONTREAL FOR US REP ICAO; LONDON FOR BILLER/STYLES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ICAO, PORG, UK

SUBJECT: ICAO AWOP-6 MEETING DATES

REF : MONTREAL 1869

U.K. PAPER ON AWOP-6 MEETING DATES HAS BEEN REVIEWED BY
DEPARTMENT AND FAA. USG POSITION REMAINS STRONG
OPPOSITION TO ANY DELAY IN AWOP-6 MEETING SCHEDULE
BEYOND FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 18 AS PROPOSED IN AN/WP 4611.

FOLLOWING CAN BE USED IN AIR NAVIGATION COMMISSION
DISCUSSION:

1. WORKING GROUP A OF ALL WEATHER OPERATIONS PANEL
ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 1, 1976 FOR FREEZING OF DESIGNS
AND THE SUBMISSION OF DATA, LEST THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS
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CONTINUE OPEN ENDED.

2. TO MAKE EXCEPTION FOR THIS SYSTEM PROPOSAL WOULD ESTABLISH A PRECEDENT WHICH WOULD IMMEDIATELY BE EXPLOITED BY OTHER STATES, SUCH AS FRANCE, FRG, ETC.

3. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT NOT ALL SYSTEMS HAVE UNRESOLVED MULTIPATH PROBLEMS. THE PROPOSED REPEAT

PROPOSED U.S. TESTS WERE ONLY DISCUSSED TO EVALUATE THE U.K. DMLS MULTIPATH PROBLEMS, NOT ANY SUCH PROBLEMS WITH TRSB. THE PROPOSED U.K./U.S. TESTS ARE NOT INTENDED TO BE A "FLY-OFF" BETWEEN THE U.S. TRSB AND THE U.K. DMLS.

4. THE U.S. SPENT TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS ON EVALUATION OF DOPPLER AND TRSB SYSTEMS BEFORE IT WAS DECIDED TO PUT FORWARD THE TRSB TECHNIQUE AS THE U.S. CANDIDATE SYSTEM.

5. AS REGARDS FIELD TRIALS OF DMLS IN THE U.S., IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT WHEN THE U.K. MADE THE ORIGINAL OFFER TO PROVIDE THE DMLS EQUIPMENT, THE INTENT WAS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE UNIQUE DMLS PHENOMENON KNOWN AS "REFERENCE SCALLOPING" HAS A SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE EFFECT ON SYSTEM PERFORMANCE. SUBSEQUENT ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTATION BY THE DMLS PROPOSER HAVE CONFIRMED THE EXISTENCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PHENOMENON. THUS, THE ORIGINAL REASON FOR THE TRIAL NO LONGER EXISTS. IT IS THE LATE DESIGN CHANGES INTRODUCED TO PARTIALLY MITIGATE THIS EFFECT THAT RESULT IN DMLS PERFORMANCE BEING WITHOUT VALIDATION.

6. IT MUST ALSO BE NOTED THAT THE U.K. DID NOT ORIGINALLY PROPOSE COMPARATIVE/COMPETITIVE TRIALS OF DMLS AND TRSB AND THE U.S. NEVER AGREED TO ANYTHING OTHER THAN DMLS ONLY TESTS. THE U.S. IS STILL WILLING TO PURSUE THE ORIGINAL IDEA AND IS PRESENTLY DEFINING BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DMLS TRIALS, BUT IS NOT CONSIDERING EXPANDING THE TRIAL TO INCLUDE A "FLY-OFF" BETWEEN THE TWO CANDIDATE SYSTEMS.
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7. DETAILS OF U.S. POSITION ON THE TEST ARE CONTAINED IN LETTER BEING SENT BY FAA TO UK CAA (T.G. MCWIGGAN, DIRECTOR OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS) TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS BY SEPARATE MESSAGE.

8. THE U.S. CANDIDATE SYSTEM FULLY MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH BY ICAO AND ANY OTHER CRITERIA AGREED.

9. THE U.S. HAS FULLY SUPPORTED THE ICAO TIMETABLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW STANDARD NON-VISUAL GUIDANCE SYSTEM. FURTHER DELAY IN THIS PROGRAM MIGHT FORCE STATES TO SATISFY NEAR-TERM NEED WITH OFF THE SHELF LANDING SYSTEMS, WHICH WILL MAKE IT VERY DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO LATER REACH AGREEMENT IN ICAO ON A NEW STANDARD.

10. THE U.S. HAS A PRESSING MILITARY REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MLS. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 40 CIVIL LOCATIONS IN THE U.S. WHICH ARE CANDIDATES FOR INSTALLATION. THE COMMON SYSTEM CONCEPT REQUIRES A STANDARDIZED SYSTEM AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AND IN KEEPING WITH THE TIMING OF THE PROGRAM STEMMING FROM THE SEVENTH AIR NAVIGATION CONFERENCE AS MODIFIED BY THE COUNCIL.

11. WHILE THE U.S. CANNOT AGREE TO DELAYING MEETINGS NOW PLANNED IN ICAO ON MLS, IF FAA ULTIMATELY AGREES TO CONDUCT TEST MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH 5, IT WOULD BE SOLELY TO ASCERTAIN THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE MULTIPATH PROBLEM, WHICH THE U.S. CANDIDATE SYSTEM DOES NOT HAVE. U.S. DOES NOT OBJECT TO THOSE TEST RESULTS, WHICH ARE OF A LIMITED SCOPE, BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO ICAO AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES PROVIDED THEY ARE NOT USED TO DELAY THE PRESENT SCHEDULE FOR WHICH THEY ARE NOT RELEVANT.

12. IN SUMMARY, ICAO PROCESS HAS ALREADY BEEN DELAYED AT LEAST TWICE AND WE SEE NO JUSTIFICATION FOR FURTHER DELAY FOR UNSPECIFIED PERIOD. U.S. BELIEVES ICAO SECRETARIAT'S PROPOSED TIMETABLE PERMITS FULL AND FAIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSIDERATION OF MLS CANDIDATE SYSTEMS.

FYI: FAA BELIEVES THAT A DELAY WOULD NOT BE FAVORED BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, USSR, OR IATA. END FYI. ROBINSON

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